

## **Claims**

What is claimed is:

1. A method of preconditioning a computer-controllable device, the method comprising the steps of:

5       determining at least one anticipated context with which the device may be associated; and

          determining at least one mode of operation associated with the at least one anticipated context such that the at least one mode of operation may be effectuated before or at a time when the anticipated context is at least partially realized.

10       2. The method of claim 1, further comprises the step of determining at least one action used to enable the at least one mode of operation.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one anticipated context comprises at least one of a location, a time, a destination, a power capacity, a policy, and a history associated with the device.

15       4. The method of claim 1, wherein the operation mode determining step further comprises employing at least one parameter used to realize the operation mode.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the at least one parameter is available from at least one of a local store and a remote store.

20       6. The method of claim 4, wherein the at least one parameter is available from a Web service.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the operation mode determining step further comprises a consideration of at least one of cost, power, experience, workflow, and coverage associated with the device.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises a mobile device.

5           9. The method of claim 1, wherein the device comprises a software defined radio.

10. A method of altering a mode of operation of a system having at least one computer controllable subsystem associated therewith, the method comprising the steps of:

10           responsive to at least one projected context, determining at least one projected mode of operation for the system; and

15           responsive to the at least one projected mode of operation, providing at least one computer operation for the at least one computer controllable subsystem, the operation enabling the at least one projected mode of operation, such that, responsive to the at least one computer operation, a current mode of operation of the system may be altered to the projected mode of operation.

11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the step of selecting a projected mode of operation, when two or more projected modes of operation are determined.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the computer controllable subsystem comprises a communications subsystem.

20           13. The method of claim 12, wherein the projected mode of operation is associated with one or more communication capabilities.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the communications subsystem comprises a software defined radio.

5 15. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of providing at least one computer operation further comprises a service discovery process.

16. A method of obtaining protocol information for a software defined radio (SDR), the method comprising the steps of:  
determining a projected context associated with the SDR;  
responsive to the projected context, determining at least one parameter related to  
10 a communication protocol for use by the SDR; and  
providing an indicator of the at least one parameter such that the at least one parameter may be employed.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of obtaining multiple protocols.

15 18. The method of claim 16, wherein determining a projected context is responsive to at least one of an SDR user calendar, an SDR user data entry, a current context, a workflow, and an SDR user history.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the current context comprises at least one of a current location, an indicator of remaining battery power, one or more current protocol  
20 settings, and current latency experienced.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein determining a projected context based on a current location comprises use of a projected location.

21. The method of claim 16, wherein determining at least one parameter comprises optimizing at least one of an end-to-end cost, latency, and security.

5           22. The method of claim 16, wherein determining at least one parameter comprises use of at least one of an algorithm, a database lookup, and a Web service.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the algorithm provides optimization of at least one of a cost to user, a battery life, and a latency.

10           24. The method of claim 16, wherein determining at least one parameter is further responsive to at least one of a user policy, an owning enterprise policy, and a security policy.

15           25. The method of claim 16, wherein providing an indicator comprises at least one of providing a protocol download, a parameter download, a uniform resource locator, a parameter address, an identifier, an Internet Protocol address, a diskette, a control string and an indicator to a device that an update is available for download.

26. The method of claim 16, wherein providing an indicator is performed wirelessly.

27. The method of claim 16, wherein providing an indicator comprises providing an indicator to a device associated with the SDR.

28. The method of claim 16, wherein the at least one parameter is operative to select between network providers.

29. A method of obtaining protocol information for a software defined radio (SDR), the method comprising the steps of:

5       receiving an indicator of a target of communication;  
      responsive to the target indicator, determining at least one parameter related to a communication protocol for use by the SDR; and  
      providing an indicator of the at least one parameter such that the at least one parameter may be employed.

10       30. The method of claim 29, wherein receiving an indicator of target includes at least one of receiving a telephone number, receiving an Internet Protocol address, and a data type.

31. Apparatus for preconditioning a computer-controllable device, comprising:  
a memory; and

15       at least one processor coupled to the memory and operative to: (i) determine at least one anticipated context with which the device may be associated; and (ii) determine at least one mode of operation associated with the at least one anticipated context such that the at least one mode of operation may be effectuated before or at a time when the anticipated context is at least partially realized.

20       32. An article of manufacture for preconditioning a computer-controllable device, comprising a machine readable medium containing one or more programs which when executed implement the steps of:

determining at least one anticipated context with which the device may be associated; and

5 determining at least one mode of operation associated with the at least one anticipated context such that the at least one mode of operation may be effectuated before or at a time when the anticipated context is at least partially realized.

33. A communications system, comprising:

a software defined radio (SDR); and

an SDR-enabled device;

10 wherein, responsive to at least one projected context, at least one projected mode of operation for the system is determined in accordance with the SDR-enabled device and, responsive to the at least one projected mode of operation, at least one computer operation is provided for the SDR, the operation enabling the at least one projected mode of operation, such that, responsive to the at least one computer operation, a current mode of operation of the system may be altered to the projected mode of operation.

15